

It was my understanding that broadcasters using public airwaves must provide balanced political advertising and programming. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election, without broadcasting available opposing viewpoints in equal time is clearly not balanced.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Because it is a large company that controls many stations using public airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for fair political reporting, and for our democracy. Instead of something produced by a large corporation that caters to its own political beliefs, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Please do not let large broadcast companies get away with highjacking our airways for their own political agendas. Thank you.